

Studies in the Book of Hosea

DOOR of HOPE

STUDY GUIDE

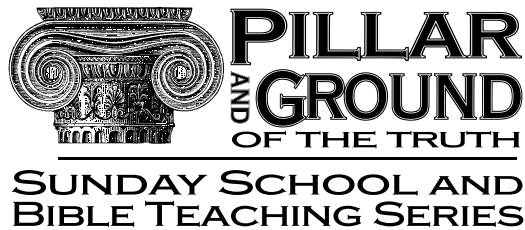


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CONTENTS



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<i>I</i>	<i>GOD'S MESSAGE THROUGH HOSEA.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>II</i>	<i>DOOR OF HOPE.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>III</i>	<i>GOD'S REDEEMING LOVE.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>IV</i>	<i>EPHRAIM IS JOINED TO IDOLS.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>V</i>	<i>IN THEIR AFFLICTION THEY WILL SEEK ME EARLY...21</i>	
<i>VI</i>	<i>MURDER BY CONSENT.....</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>VII</i>	<i>UNAWARE.....</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>VIII</i>	<i>THEY HAVE SOWN THE WIND, AND THEY SHALL REAP THE WHIRLWIND.....</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>IX</i>	<i>WANDERERS AMONG THE NATIONS.....</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>X</i>	<i>AN EMPTY VINE.....</i>	<i>41</i>
<i>XI</i>	<i>I LOVED HIM.....</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>XII</i>	<i>FEEDING ON THE WIND.....</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>XIII</i>	<i>THE DEATH AND REBIRTH OF A NATION.....</i>	<i>53</i>

Preparation Questions for Lesson 1

GOD'S MESSAGE THROUGH HOSEA

Background Reading

Hosea 1:1-11; John 3:16; Jeremiah 31:1; John 13:1; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:9-19; Genesis 12:1-3; I Peter 2:9-10

MONDAY

Read Hosea 1:1-3. Who was Hosea's wife and what was her moral downfall?

TUESDAY

Jeremiah 31:3 teaches us that God's love is everlasting. What does this mean?

WEDNESDAY

What phrase in John 13:1 expresses the love that Christ has for His own?

THURSDAY

According to Romans 3:9-19, why is all the world guilty before God?

FRIDAY

Read Hosea 1:4-9 and list the names of Hosea's children.

SATURDAY

Compare Hosea 1:10 and I Peter 2:9-10. What is God able to do for those who are not His people?



Scripture Memory

“And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD.”


Hosea 1:2

Notes



Hosea delivered the Lord's message to the northern kingdom, Israel. Through the troubles in Hosea's home, he reached the consciousness of his calling. Hosea married Gomer in good faith, but her unfaithfulness and ultimate enslavement broke the heart of her husband. Gomer's adultery pictured Israel's apostasy.

Entering this book of the Bible brings us into the heart of God. Read Hosea 1:1-11. In the first three chapters, the story of Hosea's home life sets the stage for understanding God's relationship with His people. The prophet, through the heartbreak of his own marriage, comes to see in a more meaningful way Israel's sin against God. Hosea represents God, our loving heavenly Father. Gomer represents the nation of Israel and the people of that nation. The Lord's message for each one of us is the message of His love and our responsibility.



*God chose
to reveal
His loving
heart through
His prophet
Hosea.*

Hosea

In this book, the Lord immediately introduces us to Hosea and his family. Verse one begins, "*The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea.*" When God spoke to him, he was obedient. Hosea points us to our loving God.



This is the amazing story of God's redeeming love.

When we read our Bibles, we see God at work in an unfolding drama of redemption. However, there is no place in the Old Testament where we find such

a vivid picture of God's redeeming love as we do in this book of Hosea. When we look at the life of Hosea, we are to see our Lord.

God's redeeming love seeks sinners. With every move of this book of the Bible, as this man seeks after his wife, we get a glimpse of our God who loves us "so" much that He "*gave his only begotten Son*" (John 3:16).

Gomer

Next, let us consider Gomer, Hosea's wife. She is a woman who engages in the most abominable behavior and the most disgusting activity. The Bible says that she is engaged in whoredoms. She forsakes her husband and children to go after other men, yet Hosea loves her.

Jeremiah 31:3 says that God has loved us "*with an everlasting love.*" God's love is pictured in the love Hosea had for his wife Gomer.

As we look at Gomer, we see ourselves. Our rebellious hearts are laid bare. God says in Romans 3:9-19 that we are all guilty before Him. Every time you think about her vile behavior, think of what God says concerning you and me and His great love for us.



Nothing is as powerful as the seeking love that God has for us.

The Children

The name of each child brings a message from God.

In Hosea 1:3-5 we meet the oldest child, whose name is *Jezreel*, which means "scattered." His name declares God's message, "I am going to scatter My people." They could have obeyed God and been blessed; but they will be scattered.

In Hosea 1:6-7 we meet a little girl named *Loruhamah*. We are not sure whether or not Hosea is her father. God's message in her name is that He will no longer have pity or mercy. He will no longer have the intimate fellowship that He desires to have. Something has happened!

We find in Hosea 1:8-9 a third child born who is the offspring of an adulterous relationship. His name, *Loammi*, means "not my people." God declares, "You are not my people." They do not know God the way He desires for them to know Him.

The most powerful message for mankind is the love of God. His grace is greater than all our sin.

Preparation Questions for Lesson 2

DOOR OF HOPE

Background Reading

Hosea 2:1-23; Proverbs 13:12; Ecclesiastes 9:4; Job 1:9-10; Joshua 7:26; Isaiah 65:10; Jeremiah 30:7; Revelation 13:8; Revelation 14:1; John 12:27

MONDAY

In Hosea 2:1-23, the word “*therefore*” marks key transitions in this chapter. In which verses do we find these transitions?

TUESDAY

How does the message of Ecclesiastes 9:4 teach us to keep our hope in God?

WEDNESDAY

According to Hosea 2:6-7, why did Hosea “*hedge up*” Gomer’s way with thorns?

THURSDAY

In Hosea 2:9-13, what would be taken away? Why would these things be removed?

FRIDAY

According to Hosea 2:14-15, in what valley would the door of hope be found?

SATURDAY

What is the time of trouble prophesied in Jeremiah 30:7?